

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 COME-00 PA-02
PRS-01 USIE-00 INRE-00 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 EPG-02 DODE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15
STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /104 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/CAN:DBLAKEMORE:ED
APPROVED BY EUR/CAN:JHROUSE, JR.
EB/ORF:PBARBAN

-----101744Z 118700 /53
O 101616Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 106104

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, SENV, PINT, CA

SUBJECT: BERGER COMMISSION REPORT

FOLLOWING CONTINGENCY GUIDANCE WAS PROVIDED TO DEPARTMENT
SPOKESMAN MAY 10:

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE BERGER COMMISSION REPORT
RELEASED IN CANADA YESTERDAY OPPOSING A NORTHERN YUKON/
MACKENZIE VALLEY ROUTE FOR TRANSPORTATION OF ALASKAN
NATURAL GAS TO THE LOWER 48 STATES?

A: WE HAVEN'T REVIEWED THE FULL REPORT AND SO COULD NOT
MAKE ANY DETAILED COMMENT. I NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT THE
BERGER REPORT IS ONLY ONE OF SEVERAL REPORTS ON WHICH THE
CANADIAN GOVERNMENT WILL ULTIMATELY BASE ITS PIPELINE ROUTE
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DECISION. THE OTHER KEY ELEMENTS INCLUDE THE RECOMMENDATION
OF THE NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD WHICH IS EXPECTED BY JULY,
AND THE REPORT OF A COMMISSION WHICH IS STUDYING THE SOCIO-
ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS OF THE SO-CALLED ALCAN ROUTE.

THE BERGER REPORT -- LIKE THE FPC'S LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT
DATED MAY 2 WHICH SET FORTH THE VIEWS OF THE COMMISSIONERS

ON A ROUTE CHOICE -- IS PART OF THE PARALLEL DECISION-
MAKING PROCESSES WHICH ARE IN TRAIN IN THE U.S. AND CANADA.

AS YOU KNOW, PRESIDENT CARTER'S DECISION IS EXPECTED BY
SEPTEMBER 1. WE WILL CONTINUE EFFORTS TO COORDINATE THE
DECISION MAKING TIMETABLE WITH THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT.

Q: WERE YOU AWARE OF THE BERGER COMMISSION CONCLUSIONS
BEFORE THEY WERE MADE PUBLIC?

A: THE STATE DEPARTMENT WAS NOT GIVEN AN ADVANCE COPY OF
THE REPORT. OUR EMBASSY IN OTTAWA WAS ORALLY GIVEN SOME
ADVANCE INDICATION OF THE REPORT'S MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS.
CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Sent Date: 10-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DBLAKEMORE:ED
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